

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

ITEM

15

DECISION

TOPIC

Black Hawk Lake Diagnostic and Feasibility Study

NRC approval is requested to enter into an agreement with Iowa State University (ISU) to conduct a study related to the Department's lake restoration activities. The parties will enter into this contract for the purpose of retaining ISU to provide the DNR with a diagnostic and feasibility study of Black Hawk Lake, Sac County, Iowa, for planning a lake restoration program on the lake and its watershed. The DNR intends to utilize the information gathered and analyzed in this contract to manage this natural resource and allocate lake restoration funds most appropriately. Specific objectives of the Project include:

1. ISU will discuss water quality goals to meet water quality targets as defined by State Legislation (HF2782).
2. ISU will provide restoration alternatives and identify the most cost-effective alternatives for lake restoration, and provide justification of potential alternatives at Black Hawk Lake to meet identified water quality goals.
3. Once the pertinent information has been assembled and preliminary explorations have been made of the various alternatives for lake restoration, ISU personnel will assist DNR in conducting a public hearing to give the public an opportunity to assist in the development, evaluation, and selection of alternatives; and to assist in assessing potential adverse environmental impacts; and in identifying measures to mitigate any adverse impacts that were identified.

This eighteen-month study will be funded through the Department's Lake Restoration Program. The Department will pay ISU an amount not to exceed \$188,247, which will be used to pay personnel, lab analysis, travel, and equipment.

The Department has a long history of working with the proposed service provider, Dr. John Downing, Professor, ISU, on a variety of water quality related research. These past and on-going projects include Diagnostic Studies of Iowa lakes, the Iowa Lakes Information System (interactive lakes database), and collaboration with the Center of Agriculture and Rural Development on lake economics. Past contracts have been completed in a timely, professional manner.

Marion Conover, Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
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